

INTERESTING FROM SUFFOLK.

A VICTORY NEAR THE BLACKWATER.

Gen. Corcoran's First Engagement.

The Rebels Commanded by R. A. Pryor.

They Were Whipped and Routed.

THE PURSUIT CONTINUED OVER SIX MILES.

LIST OF OUR CASUALTIES.

WASHINGTON, Saturday, Jan. 31, 1863.
I learn the following from Suffolk:
From a Rebel source we learn that Col. Page of the 5th Virginia Regiment, while in consultation with other field officers, was struck by one of our shells and killed.

The Rebels received reinforcements. Among the regiments engaged against us were the 54th, 63d, 56th, and 29th Virginia Regiments.

All is quiet at Suffolk to-night (the 31st inst.), and especially on the line of the Nansemond.

Fortress Monroe, Saturday, Jan. 31, 1863.

The fighting near the Blackwater is all over, and the Rebels are driven beyond that river.

A reconnaissance of the 1st Mounted New-York Rifles went to York, also in the direction of the Isle of Wight to within half-a-mile of the Blackwater Bridge, but could not find the enemy anywhere in that neighborhood.

Over 200 Virginia natives to-day were on our late victorious battle-field. They were engaged in securing curiosities and relics. Some of these visitors came from quite a distance.

Corporal Coleman of Company D, 69th New-York Volunteers died in hospital to-night of his wounds.

Three of the 11th Pennsylvania Cavalry, reported as wounded, have since died of their wounds.

It is a fact that Gen. Pryor said heard of a late engagement near Savannah. You are mistaken in publishing that Gen. Peck and Gen. Prior had an interview.

Gen. Pryor made his statement to a native Virginian, who imparted the intelligence he had received to us. Gen. Peck then communicated it to Gen. Dix. These are the facts of the report.

From Our Special Correspondent

SUFFOLK, Va., Jan. 30, 1863.

A portion of Pryor's hungry command made its appearance on this side of the Blackwater yesterday.

Information of the fact promptly reached Maj.-Gen. Peck, and arrangements to meet the Rebels were as speedily made. Brig.-Gen. Corcoran was placed in command of details from the several brigades stationed at this point, the prospects of a brush creating such an emulation among the brigades to have a share in it that it would have been unfair to select any special command.

The expedition started last evening in the beautiful light of the moon, and, as usual, the Rebel signals flashed forth the movement of our troops. As we had no direct information as to the locality of the enemy, great circumspection was used in the advance, and all the necessary precautions were employed to prevent surprises. About 4 o'clock this morning the foe was come up with at a ruined house on the Blackwater road, about nine miles from this town.

The position selected by the Rebels was an excellent one, and they were found to be in considerable force in cavalry, infantry and artillery. It is estimated that there was a regiment of cavalry, about 2,000 infantry, and three batteries of artillery, to dispute the ground with the Union troops. Skirmishing commenced about 5 o'clock, and was continued quite briskly for nearly two hours, without much damage to either side, until the enemy began to waver, and finally gave up the position, retiring in good order toward Franklin. At the latest advices from the scene of action, Col. Spear of the 11th Pennsylvania Cavalry, was in pursuit of the retreating enemy. The engagement was undoubtedly the heaviest skirmish which has taken place in this quarter, and the enemy has shown unusual daring in approaching so near our position.

The facility with which the enemy can push forward reinforcements at the Blackwater will render it impossible for Col. Spear to accomplish more than a simple harassing of the enemy's rear. Situated as we are here, with the roads in such execrable condition, there is no danger of anything like a general engagement taking place at present. The passage of the batteries has cut up the roads terribly. The conduct of our soldiers was excellent, and has won for them the encomiums of the commanding general. We have taken several prisoners. Col. Spear is in full pursuit as I close my letter. I shall be able to give fuller particulars to-morrow.

THE MEDICAL DIRECTOR OFFICIALLY REPORTS THAT OUR LOSS YESTERDAY WAS AS FOLLOWS:

SIXTY-NINTH NEW-YORK STATE MILITIA.

KILLED.

Sergeant Woods, Co. B.

Thomas Stone, Co. C.

Wm. Campbell, Co. C.

WOUNDED.

Corporal Thomas Mallon, Co. D, arm, severely.

J. D. Cassidy, Co. D, knee.

H. Coleman, Co. D, hip, severely.

R. Egan, Co. D, thigh.

Philip Griffin, Co. E, leg.

Corporal N. Kelly, Co. F, severely wounded by a piece of shell in knee-joint.

Corporal John Carroll, Co. E, neck.

Phil Hitts, Co. B, thigh amputated—doing well.

John Keene, Co. B, arm amputated—doing well.

[NOTE.—There are several others in this regiment very slightly wounded.]

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTIETH NEW-YORK VOLUNTEERS.

KILLED.

Captain Taylor, Co. C.

Geo. Woodruff, Co. C.

Geo. Abbott, Co. H.

Oliver Washburne, Co. A.

Chas. M. Wood, Co. A.

Robert Van Valkenberg, Co. C.

WOUNDED.

Capt. A. G. Leitch, Co. K, arm, shell, slightly.

King, Co. B, severely, in the ankle, by a shell.

Ebenezer Bean, Co. B, severely, in the hand, by a shell.

David Wright, Co. E, wrist, slightly.

Eden Chase, Co. E, wounded, missing.

Joseph N. Forbes, Co. H, left eye, by a shell.

A. B. Woodward, Co. H, gunshot wound in the leg.

D. F. Bart, Co. H, scalp wound from the fragment of a shell.

Hopkins Salisbury, Co. D, gunshot wounds in the arm and leg, severely.

George Harrington, Co. I, gunshot wound, left thigh.

George N. Barrett, Co. —, in knee, by fragment of a shell.

George C. Belden, Co. A, lower jaw, by a shell, slightly.

Edward M. Jennings, Co. A, right forearm, amputated.

Chas. Dimmock, Co. K, right forearm.

John Knox, Co. C, shoulder, slightly.

Wm. B. Austin, Co. C, shoulder.

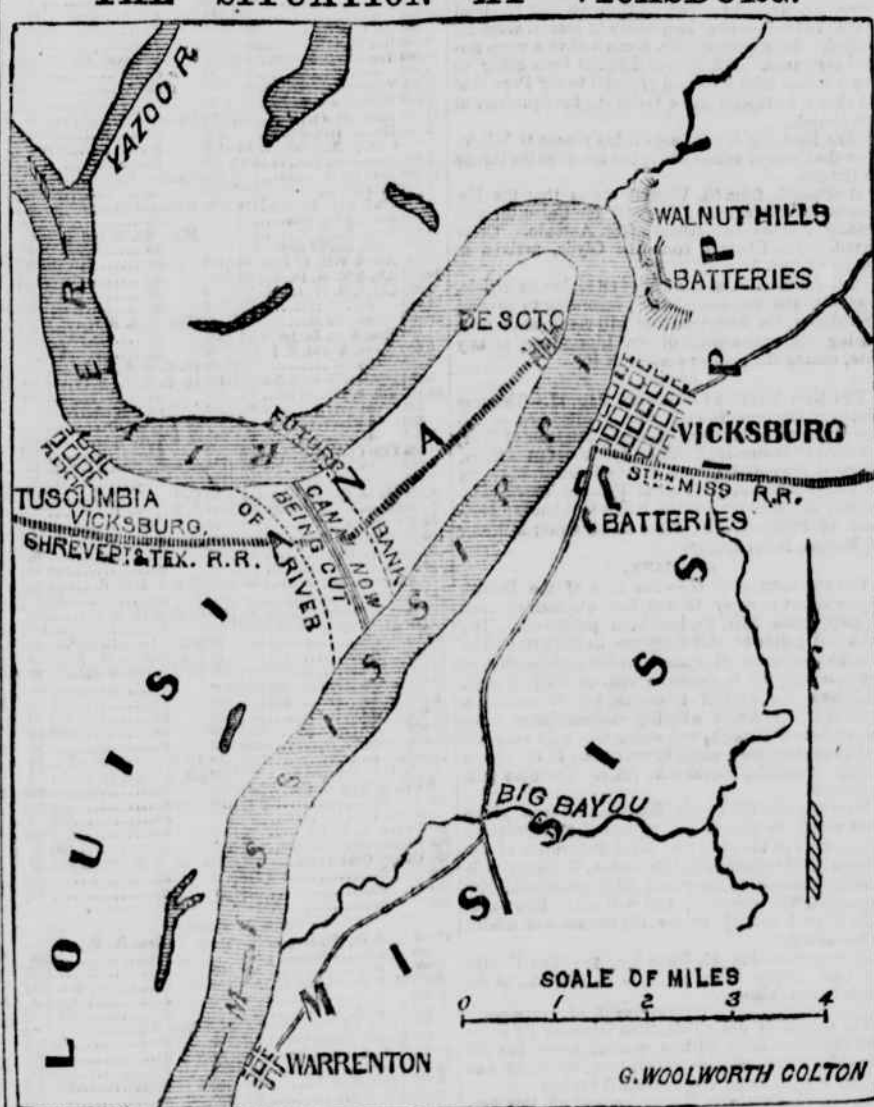
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THE SITUATION AT VICKSBURG.



THE SIEGE OF VICKSBURG.

Operations on the Cut-Off—Gen. McClernand's Chief of Staff Killed.

CAIRO, Ill., Jan. 31, 1863.

Col. Stewart, Chief of Gen. McClernand's Staff, was killed opposite Vicksburg on the 24th inst. He was destroyed the Rebel ferry-boats, and was shot by the enemy.

CAIRO, Jan. 29.—I have seen a Captain of the 96th Illinois who left Vicksburg on the 22d inst.

Gen. McClernand's forces have landed on the Louisiana side five miles below the mouth of the Yazoo River, and in full view of the city.

Two brigades were engaged, when the Captain left, in opening the famous cut-off, of which so much was said last summer.

The river is bank-full at Vicksburg, and high enough to rush through the canal at a fearful rate. He thinks it will be a perfect success. He thinks that should this channel become large enough to admit the passage of boats, the Rebels for the present will be allowed to hold Vicksburg, while the Unionists turn their attention to matters further South.

In his opinion it would take 150,000 men to storm their fortifications at Vicksburg. Our gun and mortar-boats could shell the city from where they lie on the north side of the river bend; but, even if it were entirely destroyed, the fortifications, which extend for miles back, would be as formidable as ever.

Return of the White River Expedition—Grant's Army Moving toward Vicksburg—Security of Transports—Milliken's Head the Present Point of Concentration—Legitimate Strategy to be Tried on the Lower River—Meager Provision for Invalid Soldiers—The Mississippi and its Tributaries Rising Rapidly.

From Our Special Correspondent.

NATIONAL FLEET, TRANSPORT RIVER.

Down the Mississippi, below the Mouth of White River.

Friday, Jan. 24, 1863.

The White River expedition is ended, all the fleet having returned. Gen. Gorman is now at Helena again, and Gen. Hovey about, while Gen. Fisk is on his way to Memphis, having been instructed to meet Gen. Grant there.

Fisk will immediately return down the river, en route to Vicksburg, having been assigned the command of a Division, composed of the 33d, 29th and 36th Iowa, 23d Wisconsin, and 33d and 35th Missouri; Co. A, 1st Missouri Artillery, and three companies 1st Missouri Cavalry.

Within a day or two, some 25 or 30 transports have passed down the river from Memphis with troops from Grant's army, and others will be moving southward as soon as transportation can be obtained. The boats that have gone below will probably return as soon as they have disembarked their military cargoes, in order to transfer more soldiers to the seat of war.

The present point of concentration is at Milliken's Bend, above Vicksburg, and it is thought that the force will be divided, and will cost many lives.

Gen. Fisk designs to take a hospital boat with him for the accommodation of his command, and of doing so he will save many lives; for the leaving of

sick soldiers in post hospitals is, generally, little else than abandoning them to certain death.

Helena, where over 4,000 soldiers have died since our occupation of the place late in July, is a case in point. No doubt, as you have a regular correspondent there, you have been duly informed of the horrors of Helena, whose last two syllables are entirely superfluous, and make the proper and primitive idea of the character of the place.

The post hospitals have been horribly mismanaged at Helena; and yet the surgeons say they cannot help the terrible condition of affairs that has prevailed there. Since the war began I have not been anywhere in the field that the medical department was more grossly neglected. While many of the surgeons are energetic, humane, conscientious gentlemen, more of them are heartless and boisterous brutes.

Indeed, the regulations do not provide to any extent for the number of sick we have, even under the most favorable circumstances in the army. The regulations seem to suppose about one soldier in a regiment will be ill during a year, and to have been made upon that idea. This always gives the surgeons excuses for neglecting their duties or violating their obligations. No doubt they are always short of medical supplies. I have known no time when they were not.

The Sanitary Commission, who have done so much good, and whose generous exertions cannot be too highly extolled, should, in sending stores to the army, accompany them with calomel, quinine, opium and other standard remedies.

Gen. Hovey and Gorman will, no doubt, soon be ordered down to Vicksburg with their commands, and Gen. Washburn will be left with a garrison in charge of Helena.

It is raining heavily now, and the river is rising rapidly, all of which is very favorable for, and will greatly assist in the execution of, our plans at Vicksburg.

From what I know of the programme of the next attack upon the Rebel stronghold, I have every reason to hope for our ultimate success. JUNIUS.

Little Prospect of Immediate Activity at Vicksburg—Excessive Rain—Rapid Rise of the Southern River—General Grant going below—The Position at Milliken's Bend—Affairs at Memphis.

From Our Special Correspondent.

MEMPHIS, Tenn., Monday night, Jan. 27, 1863.

So little prospect is afforded of any immediate activity in the vicinity of Vicksburg that this seems likely for some weeks to be the best point for the obtaining of information respecting what is now known as the Army of the Mississippi.

For two or three days past no troops have left here in consequence of the severity of transports; but I learn some fifty are now on their way up from Milliken's Bend—about 30 miles above Vicksburg—and will be there the close of the week return with more regiments.

The excessively rainy weather for eight or ten days and the continued and rapid rise in the lower rivers may, and probably will, have the effect of interfering with our operations down the Mississippi, as present appearances indicate a general overflow. Milliken's Bend is higher than much of the surrounding country, but still it is likely to be submerged, if the river rises during the next week as it has done recently. At Helena they are looking for a flood, and are preparing to remove their camps back to the hills in the rear of the town.

Gen. Grant intended to go down the river to-day, and will certainly leave, I am informed, to-morrow morning, to more fully comprehend the situation about Milliken's Bend, and determine the earliest possible day for the resumption of hostilities. He is very anxious to assume the offensive against Vicksburg, and has confidence apparently in his ability to do something there. Doubtless the failure of the campaign in Mississippi deters him not a little, and renders him very desirous to replace his recollection in the public mind with something more flattering to his self-love, and more creditable to his reputation as a military commander.

May he be successful in his desires and prosper in his ambitions!

We hear many of our troops below are suffering from illness, and that, as usual, poor provision is made for them. The late inclement weather will add many more to the sick list, and when the Southern rivers fall, disease will be rife and death terrible in its frequency.

In Memphis there is nothing new. The streets are flowing with disagreeableness and mud. For pickering is progressing gradually to completion. Larvels are still pouring into and commercially occupying the town. The hotels are as bad, and fifty starvation at \$25 to \$30 per week, as abundant as ever. In a word, the city is as abominable and unendurable, as a reasonably expensive and as inexpensively obnoxious as in its palmy days of cock-tails and cockades.

Its population seems to be made up of speculators, sharpers and soldiers, and the principal articles of consumption dirt and whisky. Everyone abuses it and suffers in it, and looks forward to the period when Memphis will be something more than an incorporated village of extortionists, and something less than a mock-auction shop (on a large scale) whose Peter Funk is sometimes a Union officer and sometimes a degenerate descendant of Malachi. JUNIUS.

FROM GENERAL ROSECRANS'S ARMY.

SPIRITED ENGAGEMENT AT WOODBURY.

SEVEN REBEL REGIMENTS ROUTED.

35 KILLED AND 100 PRISONERS.

MURFREESBORO, Tenn., Jan. 27.

Quite a spirited affair came off on Monday at Woodbury, 20 miles out on the McMinnville road, in which Palmer's Division of Crittenden's Corps won fresh laurels.

Seven Rebel regiments were stationed there as an outpost.

Palmer concentrated his brigades at Readyville on Saturday and Sunday, without tents or baggage.

On Monday, hoping for a surprise, the 9th Indiana were thrown out as skirmishers, closely supported by the 41st Ohio and 31st Indiana. These troops were put in rapid advance, but the Rebels scented the movement, and by the time our forces were full upon them they were in a promiscuous skedaddle. They gave some fight, however, wounding seven, and killing two of the 41st Ohio, and wounding two of the 9th Indiana.

We killed their Colonel commanding and 34 others, and took 100 prisoners.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Times.

CAIRO, Thursday, Jan. 29, 1863.

Gen. Rosecrans's Department has been extended so as to include Forts Donelson and Henry, and Clarksville, Tenn.

Gen. Buford, it is said, will join Gen. Grant's army, and take a command in the field.

BOMBARDMENT OF GALVESTON.

THE BALL OPENED BY THE BROOKLYN.

Attacks Upon the Fortifications.

The Day Chiefly Devoted to Securing Positions.

The Grand Bombardment Yet to be Heard From.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 1, 1863.

The following extract from a letter written by Acting Assistant-Paymaster Frederick R. Thompson, of the United States steamer New-London, detailing some incidents of the bombardment of Galveston has been forwarded to the Secretary of the Navy:

Saturday Evening, Jan. 30, 1863.

"We arrived off Galveston about noon to-day, and as soon as the Captain reported to the flag-officer, the request went up from the flag-officer to prepare for action and get under way. The Brooklyn stopped about two miles from the fort, while the New-London and Scioto went close in, to draw, if possible, the fire of any batteries which the Rebels may have erected. Surrounding the fort could be seen the tents of the troops, and toward them our fire was directed. The ball was opened by the Brooklyn. She was lying about a mile and a-half from us. We saw a puff of smoke at the bow, and then heard the deep booming of her gun, while in the air we could hear the howling of her shell as it passed over us. The Scioto followed with her eleven-inch Parrot with one extremity of the town, while we were along the front at the other extremity. We opened fire with one Parrot and Sawyer, but elicited no reply. We then went within a mile and a-half of the fort and opened fire on the encampment. The Scioto came after us, while the Brooklyn, with the tremendous range of her guns, planned a shell in nearly at the distance of three miles. We were rolling tremendously, and we had to fire as we were rising. Our starboard 50-pounder was fired, and we watched in the direction of the range. The shell exploded in the fort, and soon down came the Rebel flag, the halyards being cut, so that it credit belongs to the New-London. After firing several good shots, the signal was sent up from the flag-ship to cease action. We came about, and as we returned a field-piece battery was open as upon us, but it fell short, though near enough for us to hear and see the shot as it struck about twenty rods from us. We gave them a broadside, and the Scioto three 11-inch shells, all of which struck and exploded in the battery, the effect of which, must have been tremendous, judging from what we could see through the glass. We could see the masts of the Harriet Lane over the town, which is situated on a narrow strip of land. To-night our squadron has been reinforced by two more gunboats, carrying sixteen guns. To-morrow being Sunday, nothing will be done, but when the bombardment is renewed it will be terrific. Galveston is a doomed town. The disgrace attending the capture of the Harriet Lane must be wiped out, and the vengeance upon the butchers and captors will be awful. On Monday we shall attempt to pass the forts at the mouth of the harbor."

FROM NORFOLK.

Descriptions to the Enemy.

From Our Special Correspondent.

NORFOLK, Va., Jan. 30, 1863.

Private McGinnis of the 99th Regiment N. Y. V. and Private Skelly of the 7th New-York Battery deserted to the enemy last night. The latter took the countersign for the remainder of the week. They were on picket duty, and their names deserve to be handed down to posterity with the infamy they merit.

FROM FORTRESS MONROE.

Fortress Monroe, Saturday, Jan. 31, 1863.

Visa Baltimore, Feb. 1, 1863.

The iron-clad Potomac left Hampton Roads last evening at 7 o'clock, and went to sea under convoy of the U. S. gunboat Pawnee.

The gunboat Rhode Island, which has been here several days taking in coal, sailed hence at 9 o'clock this forenoon.

The flag-of-truce steamer New-York, in charge of John E. Milford, leaves for City Point to-night, and is expected to bring down several Union prisoners now in Richmond.

THE WAR IN ARKANSAS.

ANOTHER DASH INTO VAN BUREN.

Capture of a Steamer and 300 Prisoners.

SPRINGFIELD, Mo., Jan. 26, 1863.

To Major-General Grant:

Col. Harrison telegraphs from Fayetteville the success of a scout just returned from Van Buren, having captured the steamer Julia Roan and 300 prisoners, about 200 of whom were paroled. The scout consisted of 130 men of the 1st Arkansas Cavalry and 10th Illinois Cavalry, under command of Lieut.-Col. Stewart.

No loss on our side. On that of the enemy, two killed and several wounded.

J. M. SCHOFIELD, Brig.-Gen. Commanding.

A REPULSE AT CHARLESTON.

LOSS OF THE GUNBOAT I. P. SMITH.

She was Surrendered Unconditionally.

OUR LOSS REPORTED TO BE HEAVY.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 1, 1863.

Acting Rear-Admiral Lee has sent the following telegram to the Secretary of the Navy:

Newport News, Saturday, Jan. 31, 1863.

via Fortress Monroe, Feb. 1—8 A.M.

The Richmond Examiner of Saturday contains the following dispatch:

CHARLESTON, Friday, Jan. 30, 1863.

The Federal gunboat I. P. Smith, carrying 18 guns and 630 men, surrendered unconditionally to our forces this afternoon, after a sharp engagement at Stono River. The enemy's loss is heavy. Only one man was wounded on our side. Another gunboat, captured in a crippled condition. Our forces were under command of Lieut. Col. Bates.

THE LAST OF THE PIRATE ORETO.

SHE IS PURSUED BY OUR GUNBOATS.

Seeks Shelter Among the Bahama Keys.

Is Shelled by the Cuyler and Burned.

GREAT EXCITEMENT AT HAVANA.

Last evening a gentleman, who had just arrived at this port on board the Columbia from Havana, states that on Tuesday, the 26th of January, passengers from Matanzas brought the intelligence that an American gunboat had destroyed the pirate Oreto. The next day the report was confirmed by the arrival of the Creole. He stated that the officers of the Cayuga (one of the war steamers that chased the pirate) spoke to her, and reported that the gunboat Cuyler outran the other vessels that were with her in pursuit of the Oreto, and drove her into a narrow channel, north of Cuba, known as one of the Bahama Keys, where she was shelled by the Cuyler, and totally destroyed.

The Oreto, or Oreto, or Florida (she had as many aliases as a thief), had been driven into Havana several days before by our war steamers. She remained there long enough to take in coal, and when she thought it safe to venture out to sea, started for Cardenas, but she was immediately pursued by our vessels, several of which had been watching for her, and pursued with so much vigor and speed, that it was impossible for her to escape—so she sought shelter in one of the Bahama Keys.

The news was generally believed in Havana, and caused a great deal of excitement among the Separatists in that city.

Parties arrived at Havana as early as Tuesday morning who had heard the firing of guns in the direction of the Dog Keys.

The Bahamas is a chain of islands, about 500 in number, of which only twelve or fourteen are inhabited; indeed many of them are sand-banks, rocky islets and coral reefs. It was off one of these unoccupied and uninhabited sand-banks, called Dog Keys, in consequence of their being surrounded by shoals of dogfish, that the shell from the Cuyler set the Oreto on fire.

Capt. Jack Eldridge, who has sailed from New-York to Havana for thirty years, and who is as familiar with the straits of the Bahamas as he is with the streets of New-York, heard the statement made by the passengers who came on the Columbia, and credits the report. He says that the pirate would naturally seek shelter among the Dog Islands and inlets of Bahama. The gentlemen from Havana, who brought this news, believe it to be true. The people of Havana credited it; and, at the time the Columbia left, it was the all-absorbing topic of conversation in the streets and hotels of Havana.

FROM MEMPHIS AND VICINITY.

Rebel Reoccupation of Northern Mississippi—Negro Murder Still in Progress—State of the Country.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

Memphis, Tenn., Monday, Jan. 27, 1863.

The Rebels have reoccupied Holly Springs, a brigade of mounted infantry under Gen. Whitehead, and two brigades of infantry under Gen. Tightman. They are now repairing the Mississippi Central Railroad between Holly Springs and Tullahoma. The enemy are again entreaching themselves at the Memphis and Charleston Railroad of rebel raids and Rebel invasions, but probably no immediate danger is to be apprehended of either. The roads are horrible, and the streams too high, and the bottom too extensively flooded to allow the movement of any considerable body of troops by land.

The country south of the railroad from Memphis to Grand Junction is infested as pestilential a band of rasc